

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

WALSH, James T. (Republican)  
Representative, 25th District, New York  
Elected 1988 to the 101st Congress  
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



### BACKGROUND

Born: Syracuse, New York - 19 June 1947  
Home: Syracuse, New York  
Marital Status: Married (DeDe) - 3 children  
Religion: Roman Catholic  
Education: St. Bonaventure Univ, BA, 1970  
Military: None

Profession: Marketing executive; Peace Corps volunteer

Political: Syracuse Common Council, 1978-1988, president, 1986-1988. Won with 57% of the vote in the 1988 race for the then 27th District seat of retiring Rep George C. Wortley (R). Now represents the 25th District as a result of redistricting. Reelected in 2000 with 69% of the vote and in 2002 with 72.4%.

Rep Walsh, a conservative, generally votes the party line, digressing, however, if it involves issues that concern Syracuse's blue collar population. Supports legislation addressing campaign finance reform. Suggested creating one congressional cmte to coordinate the Federal anti-drug effort. Voted in the 102d Congress to give President Bush authority to use military force in the Persian Gulf. Spoke out in favor of increased funding for VA facilities to ensure that veterans' health care needs are fully addressed.

In the 103d Congress, was assigned to the Appropriations Cmte. Was one of only three Republicans to vote in favor of President Clinton's stimulus package. Criticized SecDef Aspin for failing to send tanks and armored vehicles requested by US military commanders in Somalia. In the 104th Congress, became chairman of Appropriations Subc on DC, after having served as ranking minority. In the 105th Congress, became chairman of Legislative Branch Subc.

In the 106th Congress, named Chairman of Appropriations' VA, HUD Subc, appointed to Milcon Subc. Helped increase funding for VA extended care facilities and medical research. Was instrumental in steering \$231M in new contracts for the Lockheed Naval Electronics & Surveillance Systems division in Syracuse which builds Navy mine warfare components and Coast Guard navigation systems. In July 2000 succeeded in getting an Air Force commitment to upgrade the ANG's 174<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Hancock Airport to Block 30 F-16 aircraft with advance targeting pods, after dropping language he had inserted in the FY2001 VA-HUD-NASA appropriations bill that would have stopped joint research programs between the Air Force, NASA, AF Space Command and the National Reconnaissance Office. Termed the 174<sup>th</sup> FW upgrade his "top priority" for the year.

In the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress, helped provide \$11.5 million in projects for Lockheed Martine and Sensis Corp. Secured \$35 mil in milcon improvements for Ft Drum and Hancock Field. Hoped the improvements at Hancock would protect it during the next BRAC.  
Additional: Served in Nepal with the Peace Corps; father, William F. Walsh, served in the U.S. House, 1973-79  
AF Bases: Hancock Apt - Syracuse (ANG)

### COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS -- Subcs on VA-HUD-Independent Agencies, Chairman; Agriculture, Rural Development and FDA; Military Construction